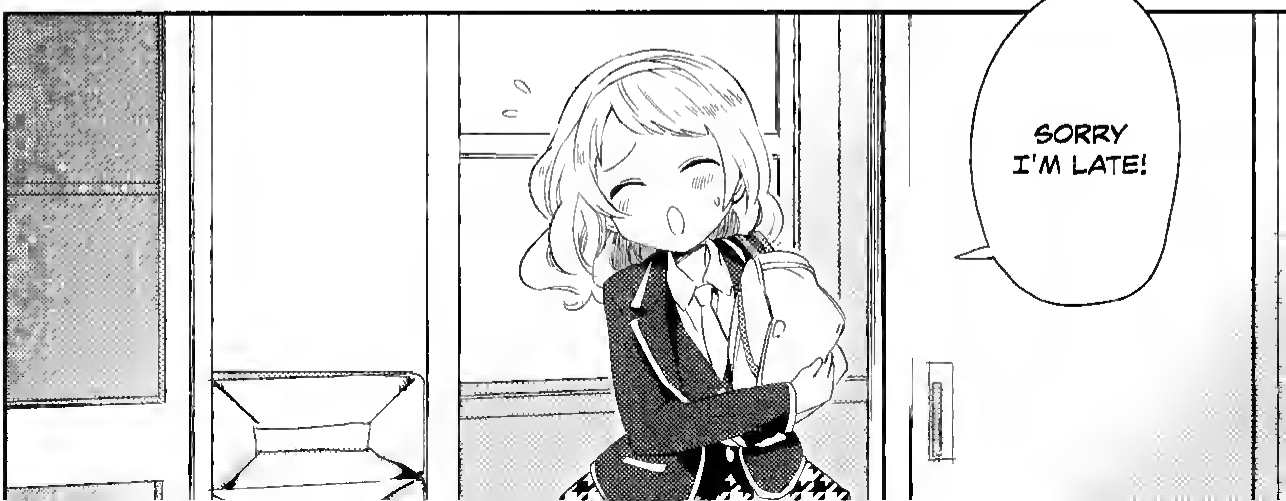
百合原 AKI YURIHARA 明

空色の鳥と春の風

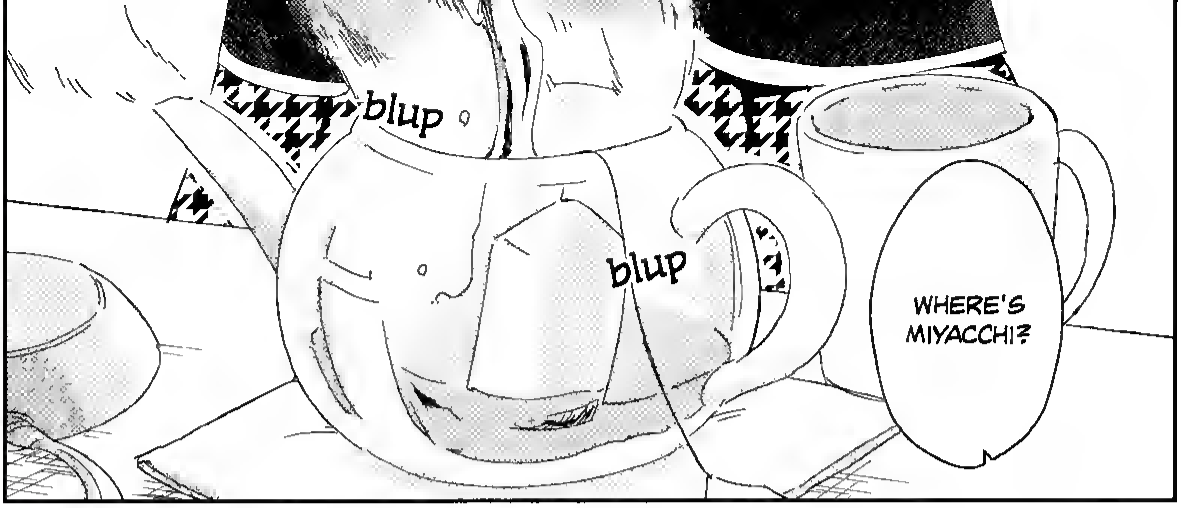
The azure bird and spring wind

Quiver
Oh man... it's there again...
I knew I should've taken the long way around...

occult
research circle

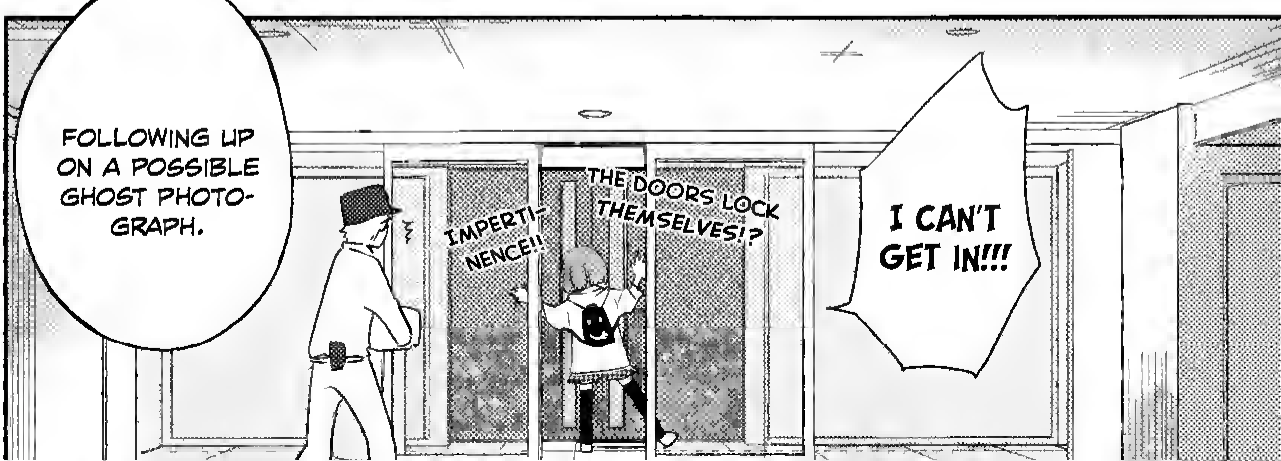

SORRY I'M LATE!

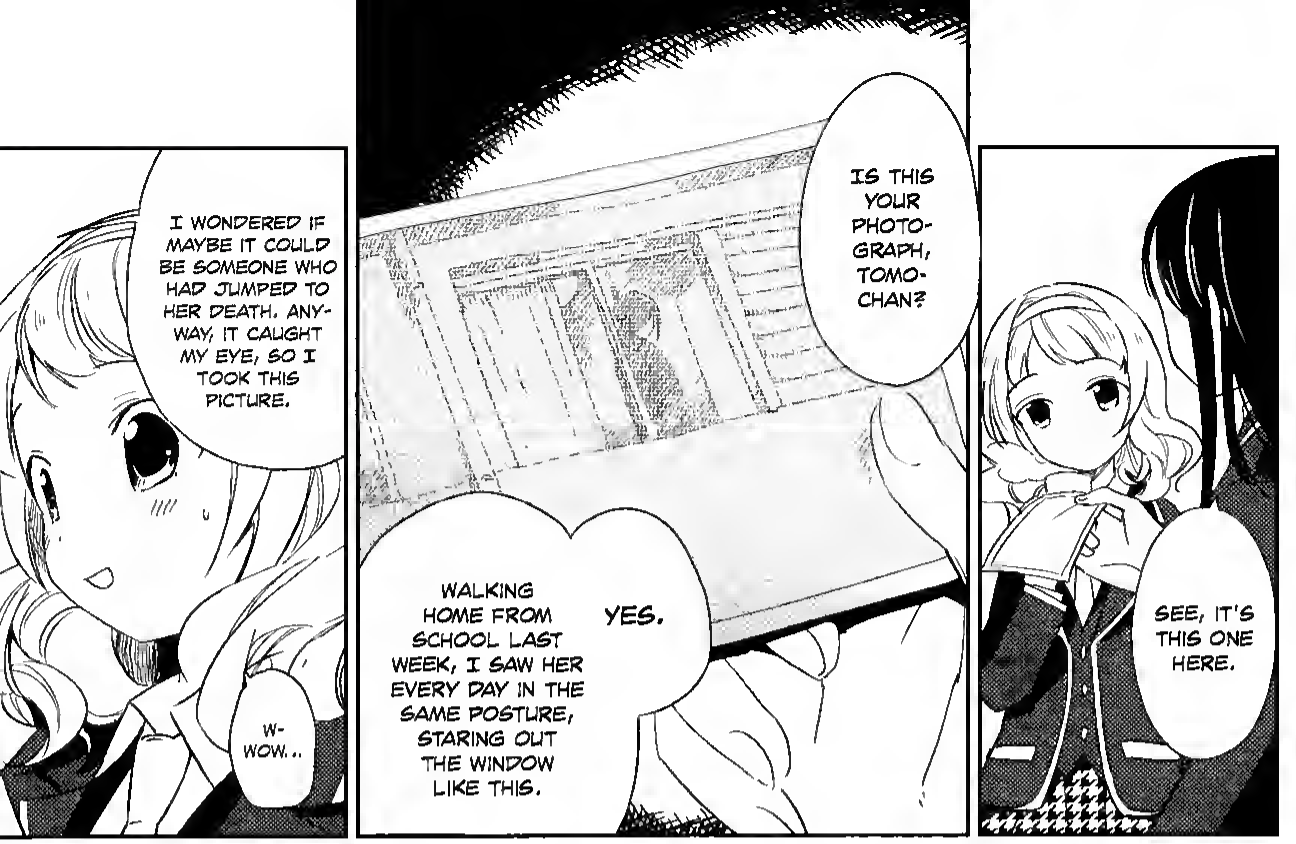
YEAH...
THOUGH I DIDN'T SEE HER FALL.
OH, TORIKAI-SAN! YOU'RE COMING FROM THE WEST BUILDING?
DID YOU SEE THAT GIRL AGAIN, BY ANY CHANCE?
thud
LET ME FIX SOME TEA FOR YOU, TOMO-CHAN.
MM...? HUH?
WHERE'S YOUR CUP, TOMO-CHAN?
IT'S BROKEN. DON'T WORRY, I DON'T NEED ANY.

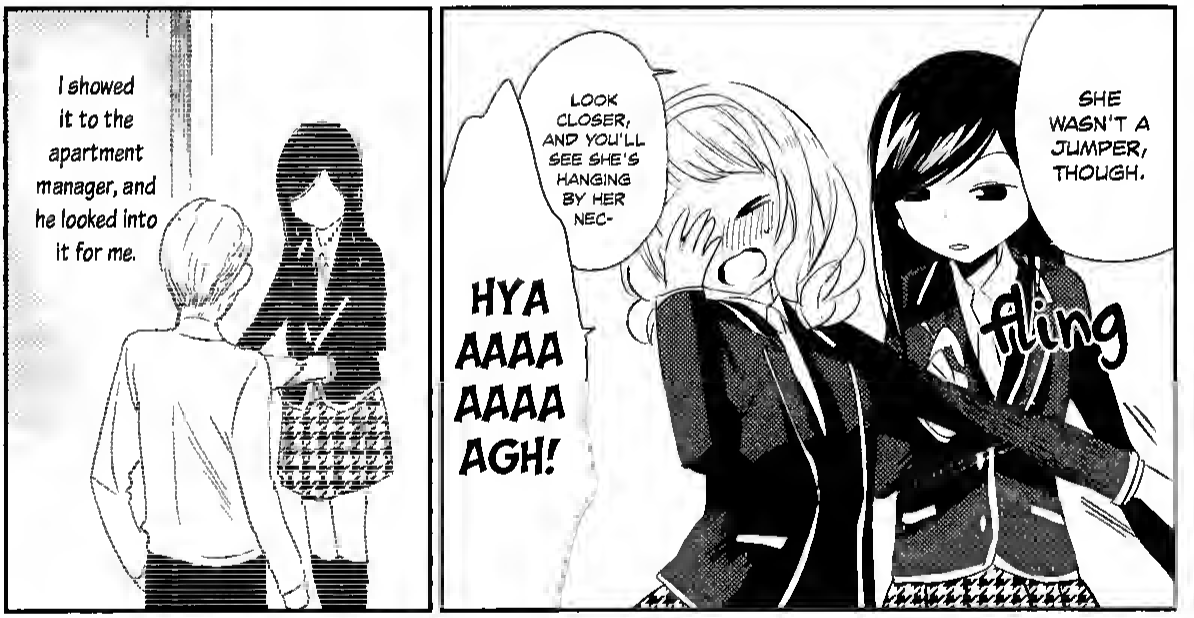

blup
blup
WHERE'S MIYACCHI?

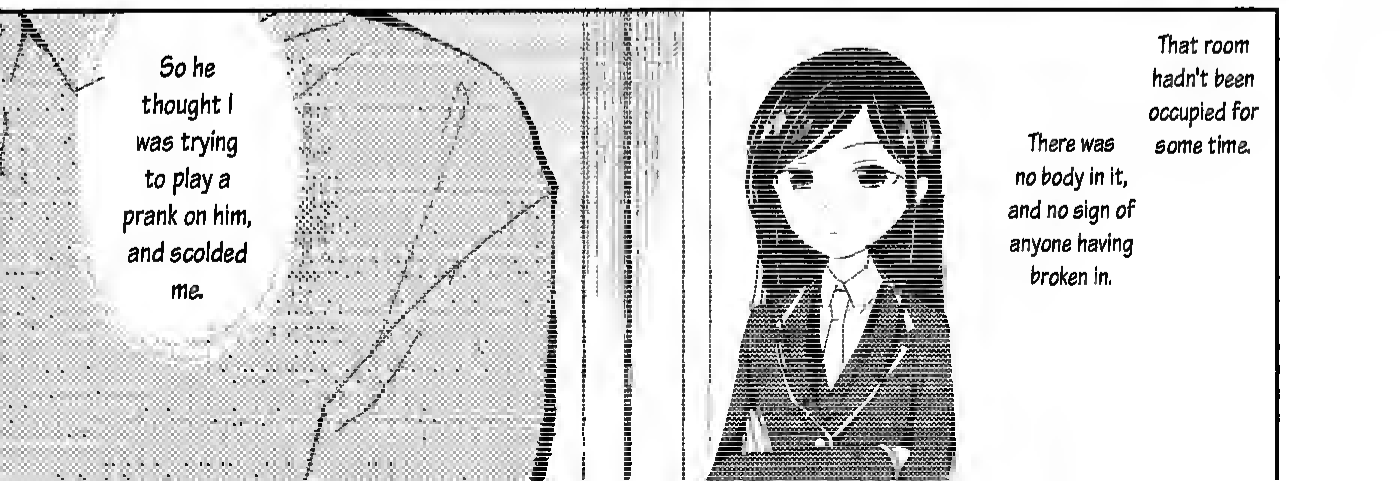
HARUKAZE'S OUT DOING FIELD WORK.

MNNNH...


FOLLOWING UP ON A POSSIBLE GHOST PHOTO-GRAPH.
IMPERTI-NENCE!!
THE DOORS LOCK THEMSELVES!?
I CAN'T GET IN!!!

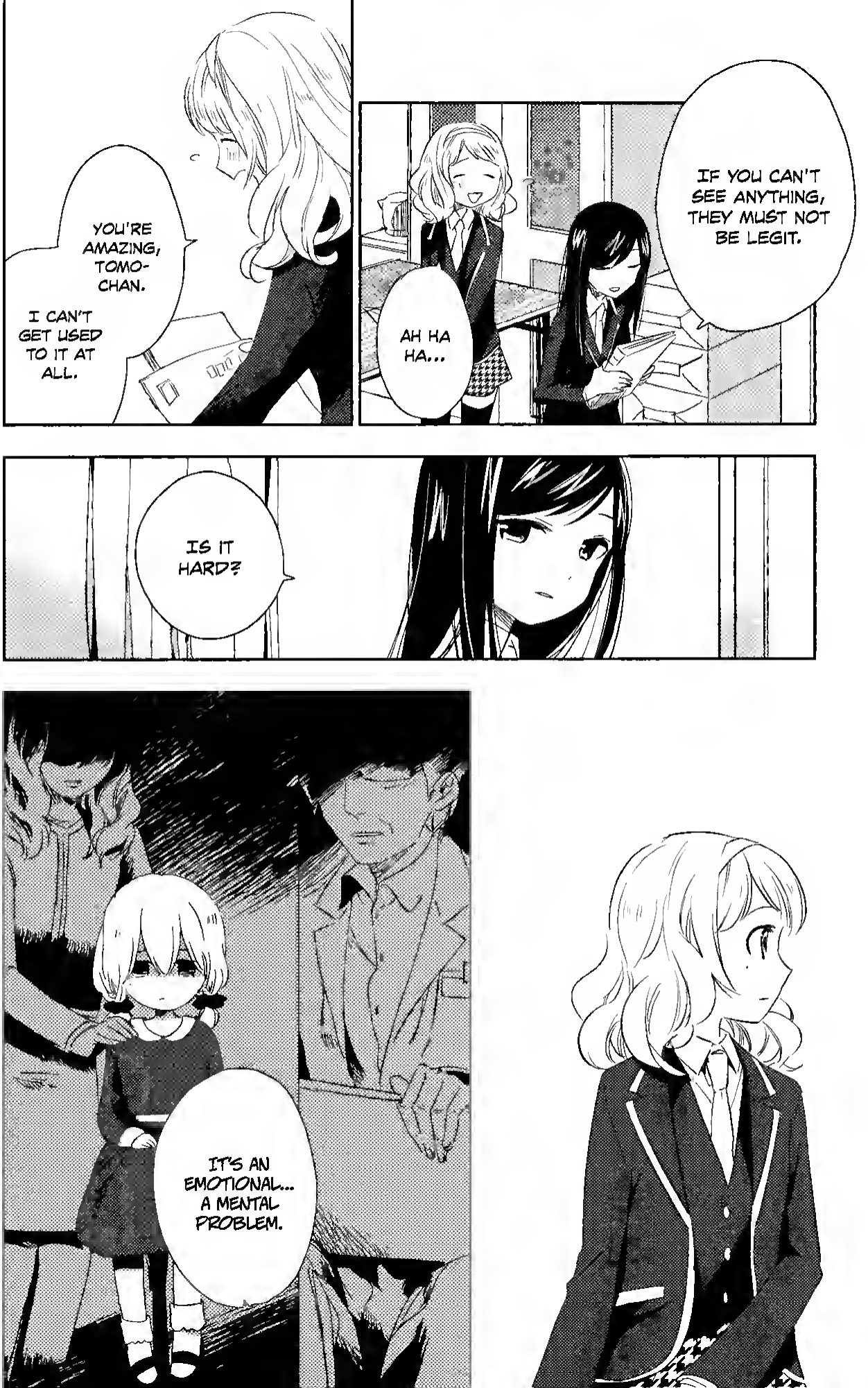

I WONDERED IF MAYBE IT COULD BE SOMEONE WHO HAD JUMPED TO HER DEATH. ANYWAY, IT CAUGHT MY EYE, SO I TOOK THIS PICTURE.
W-WOW...
IS THIS YOUR PHOTOGRAPH, TOMO-CHAN?
YES.
WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL LAST WEEK, I SAW HER EVERY DAY IN THE SAME POSTURE, STARING OUT THE WINDOW LIKE THIS.
SEE, IT'S THIS ONE HERE.


I showed it to the apartment manager, and he looked into it for me.
LOOK CLOSER, AND YOU'LL SEE SHE'S HANGING BY HER NEC-
HYA AAAA AAAA AGH!
SHE WASN'T A JUMPER, THOUGH.
fling


So he thought I was trying to play a prank on him, and scolded me.
There was no body in it, and no sign of anyone having broken in.
That room hadn't been occupied for some time.

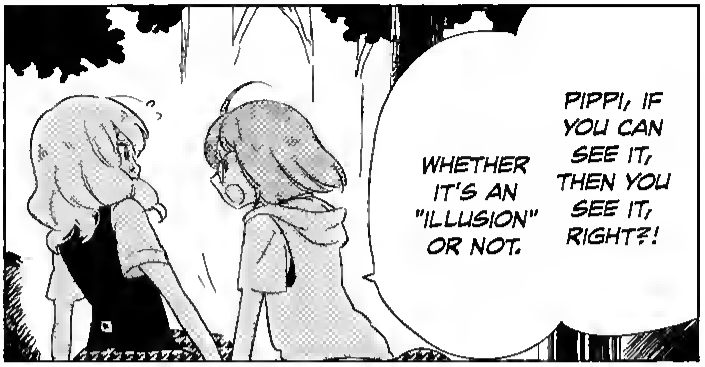
SO, MIYACCHI WENT OUT TO INVESTIGATE THIS?
THAT SAID, I STILL SEE A LOT LESS THAN YOU DO, TORIKAI-SAN.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING??
BECAUSE I KNOW I'VE GOT LUCK ON MY SIDE.
BETTER GET USED TO IT.
I CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR PIPPI TO SHOW UP!
I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT RIGHT NOW!!
AMAZING!
THIS GETS MY BLOOD GOING!
EXACTLY LIKE THE URBAN LEGEND...! A WOMAN ALWAYS STARING OUT THE SAME APARTMENT WINDOW!
sniff
THAT'S OUR FAVORITE ASPIRING OCCULT JOURNALIST FOR YOU!
SEEING IT STIRRED HER UP.

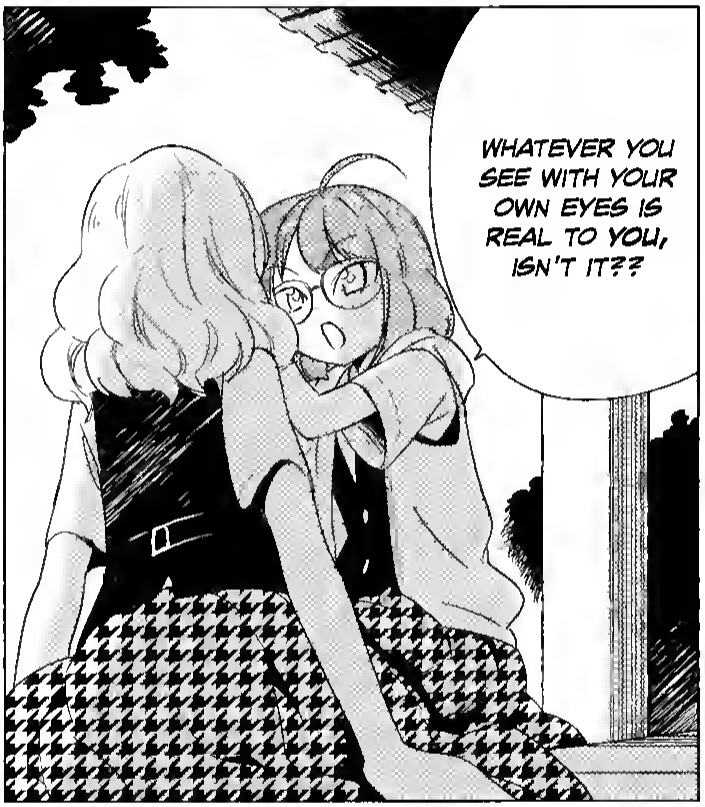
sniff
WERE YOU BURNING INCENSE?
I- I- I'M VERY SORRY..!
S-SO, WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THOSE?
TO THE INCINERATOR, I SUPPOSE.
ARE YOU SURE IT ISN'T ME YOU'RE SMELLING?


YOU'RE AMAZING, TOMO-CHAN.
I CAN'T GET USED TO IT AT ALL.
IF YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING, THEY MUST NOT BE LEGIT.
AH HA HA...
IS IT HARD?
IT'S AN EMOTIONAL... A MENTAL PROBLEM.

THEY CALL IT DISSOCIATIVE DISORDER... SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
YOU THINK SOMEONE'S THERE?
JUST INSIDE HER HEAD.
THE THINGS SHE SEES... MAY NOT BE REAL.
BUT,
YOU CAN SEE IT, RIGHT?
THE DOCTOR SAID IT'S AN ILLUSION...
AND MY MOM HATES THIS KIND OF STUFF...

SO I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE OF THIS GRUMBLING!


PIPPI, IF YOU CAN SEE IT, THEN YOU SEE IT, RIGHT?!
WHETHER IT'S AN "ILLUSION" OR NOT.


WHATEVER YOU SEE WITH YOUR OWN EYES IS REAL TO YOU, ISN'T IT??

PIPPI, HOW ABOUT YOU BECOME MY ASSISTANT?

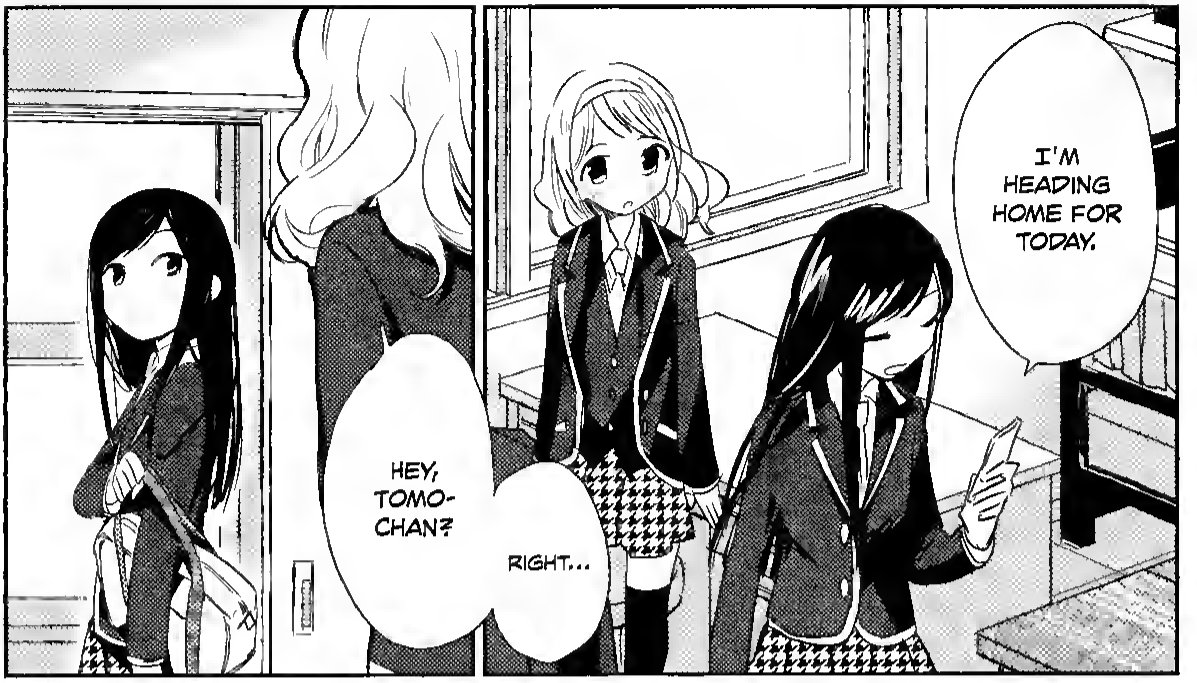
I KNOW!

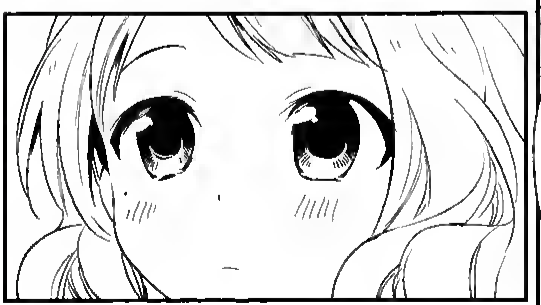
AHHH, UNFORGIVABLE!! WHEN I NEVER SEE A THING!

AS LONG AS MIYACCHI'S WITH ME, EVEN IF THERE IS SCARY STUFF, IT'S NOT SO ROUGH.
giggle
giggle
BUT THEN SOMETIMES SHE RUNS OFF AND LEAVES ME BY MYSELF.
A HANDFUL OF A CLUB PRESIDENT, HUH?
BUT YOU KNOW, MIYACCHI, SHE'S REALLY, REALLY COOL!
I KNOW.
YOU DO??
I SURE DO. AFTER ALL, I...
WAS LEAD HERE BY HER AS WELL!

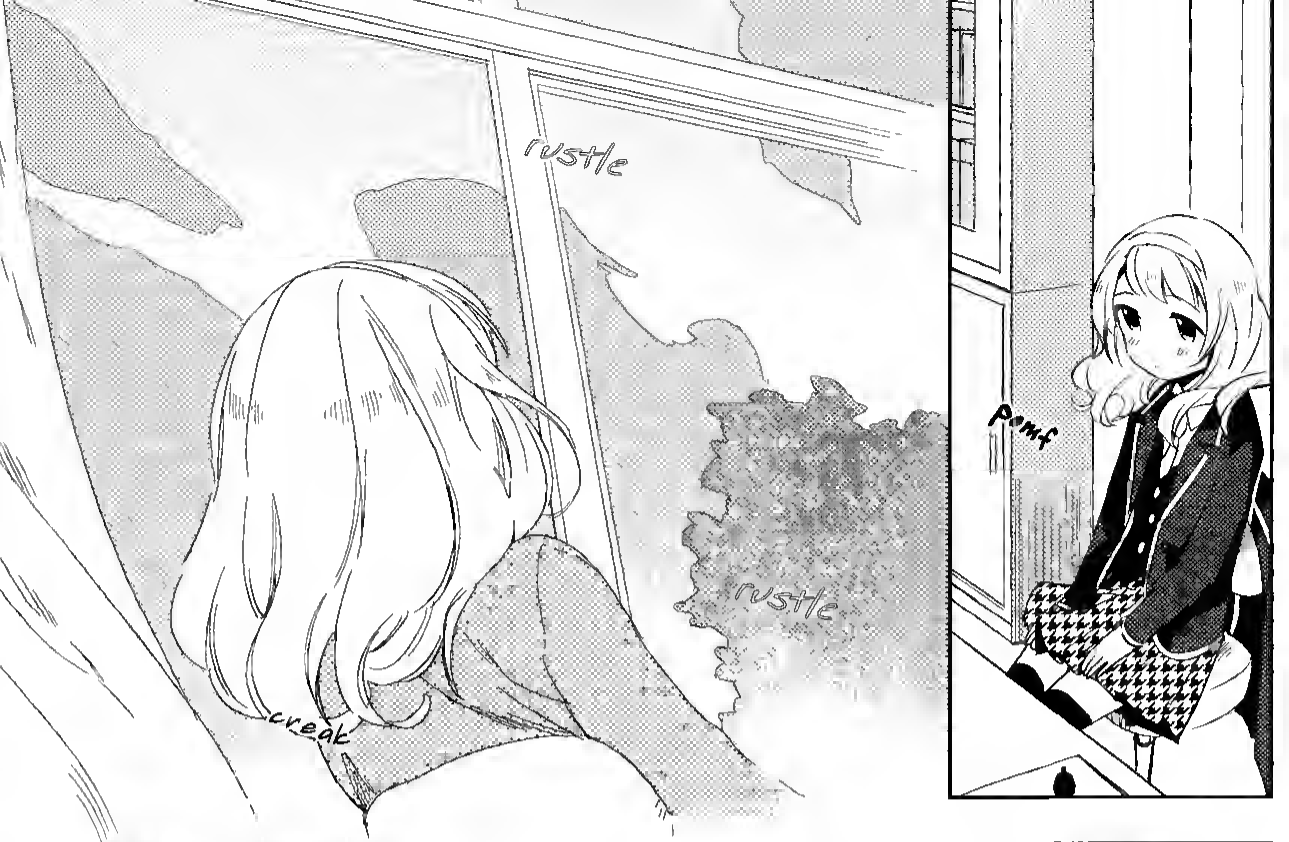
whoosh

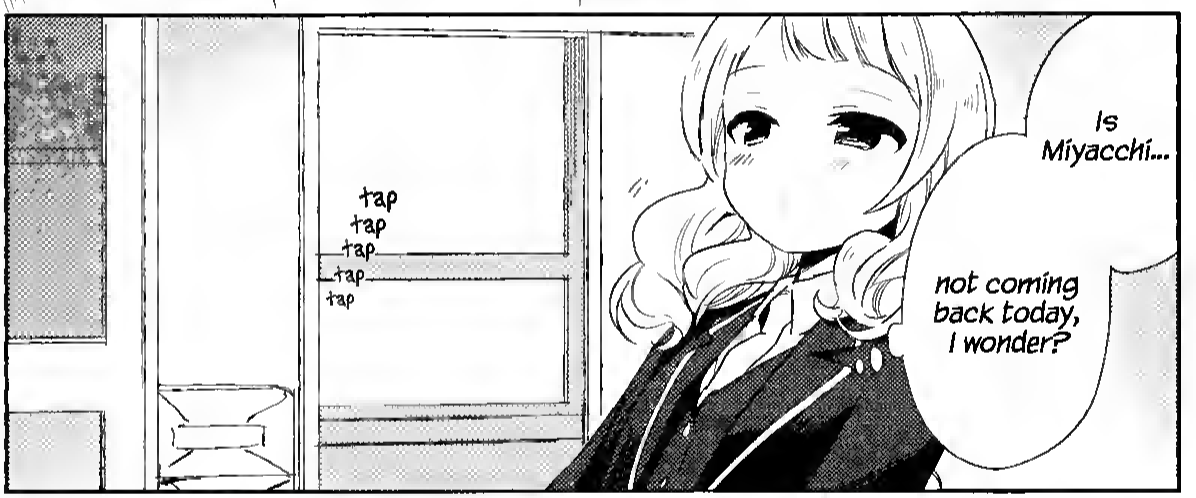
Tomo-chan's so pretty,
she sometimes almost seems to be floating.
Beautiful...
Like something out of a dream...
bzz
bzz

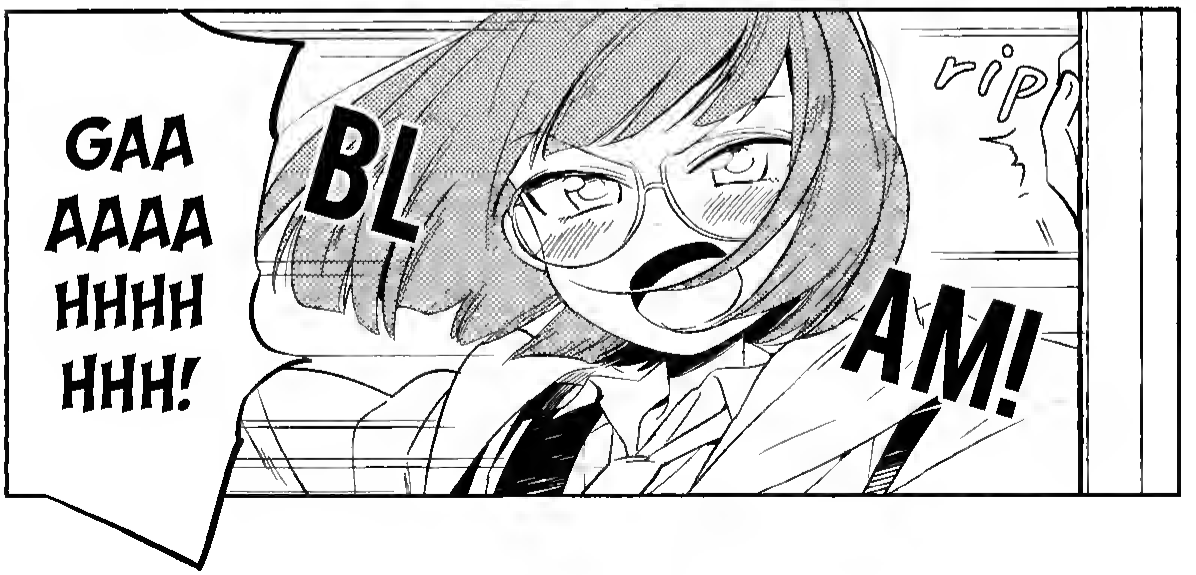

I'M HEADING HOME FOR TODAY.
HEY, TOMO-CHAN?
RIGHT...

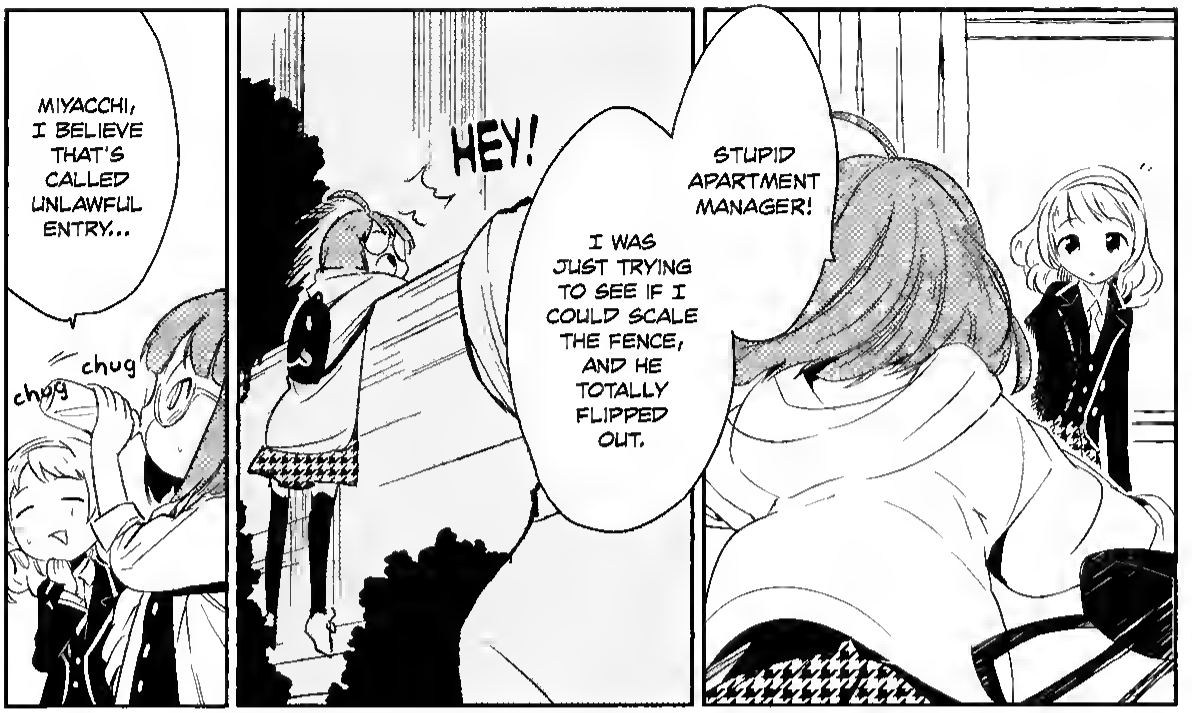


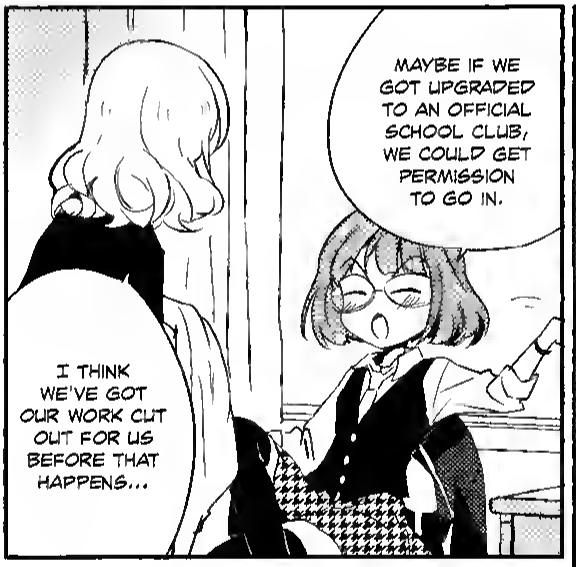
I'M...
VERY, VERY HAPPY THAT YOU JOINED OUR CIRCLE.


rustle
rustle
creak
pomf

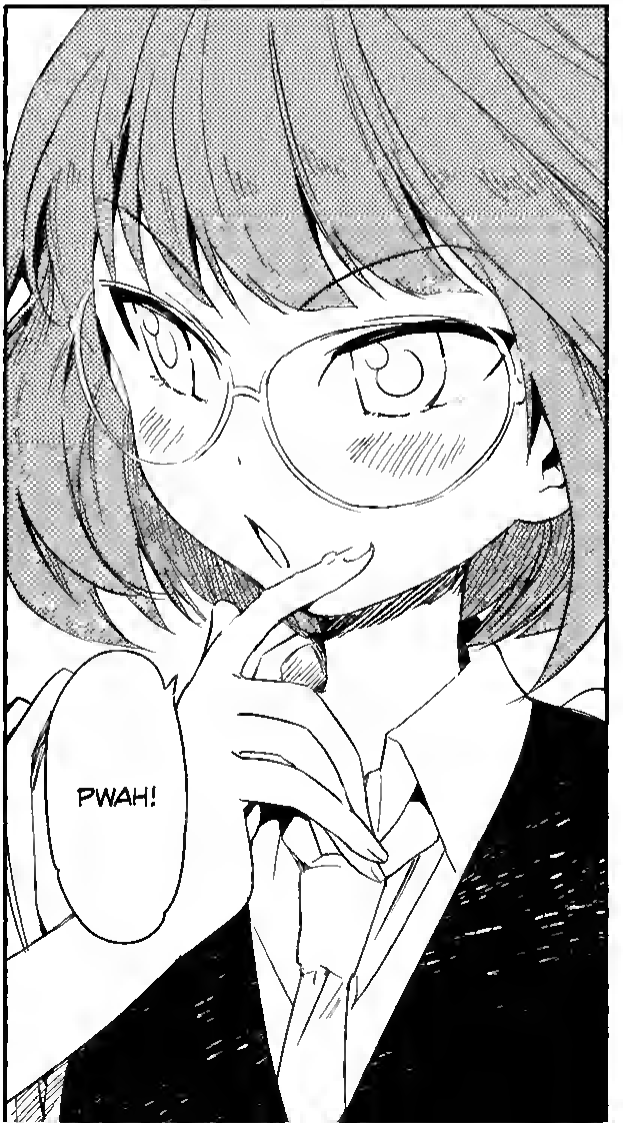

tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
Is Miyacchi...
not coming back today, I wonder?

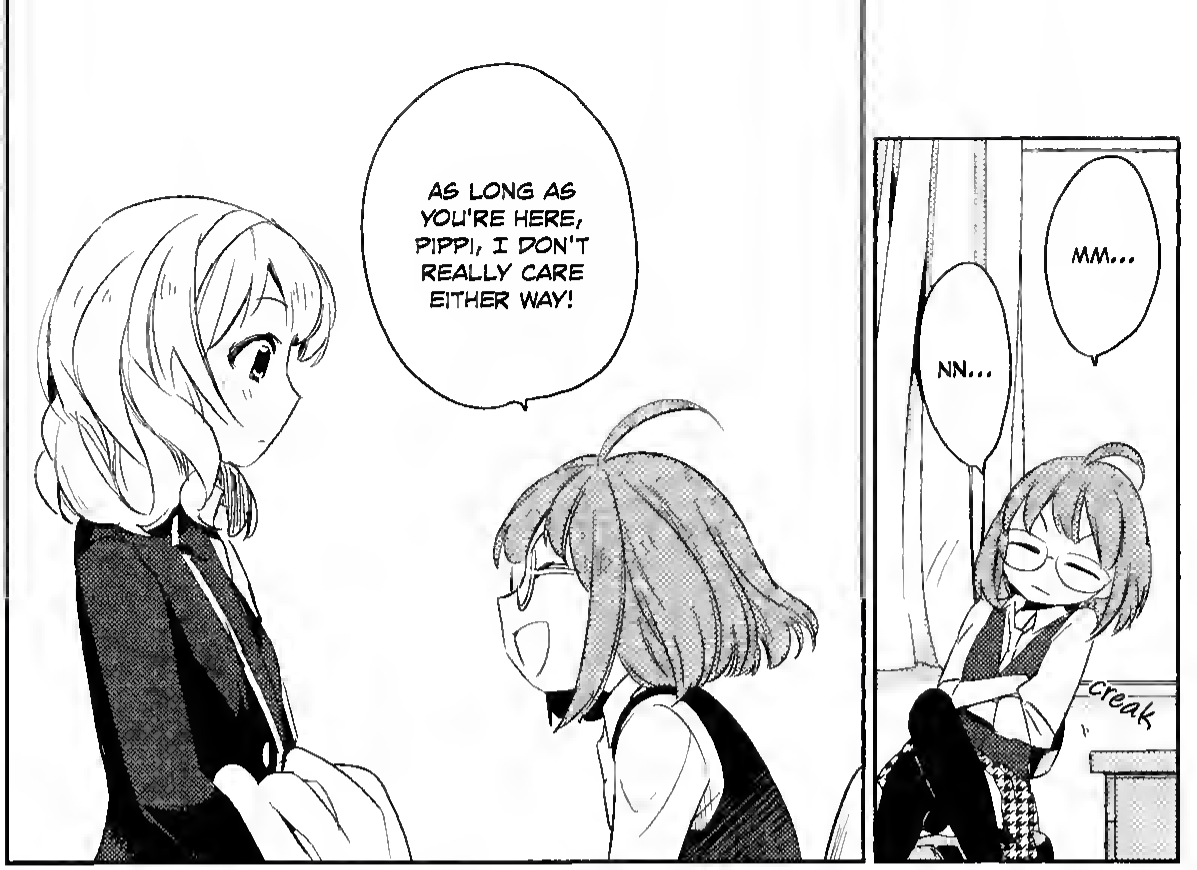

GAA AAAA HHHH HHH!
BL
AM!
rip

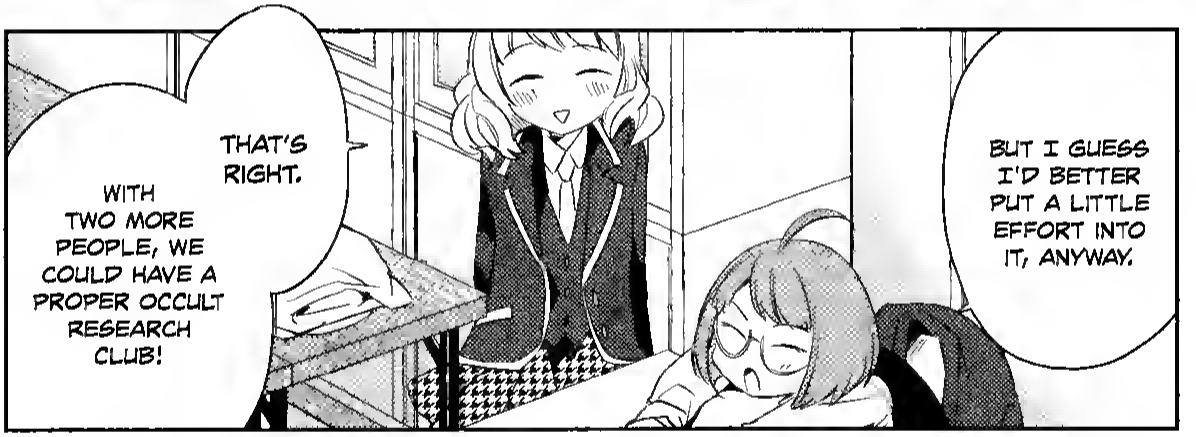

MIYACCHI, I BELIEVE THAT'S CALLED UNLAWFUL ENTRY...
chug
chug
HEY!
I WAS JUST TRYING TO SEE IF I COULD SCALE THE FENCE, AND HE TOTALLY FLIPPED OUT.
STUPID APARTMENT MANAGER!


MAYBE IF WE GOT UPGRADED TO AN OFFICIAL SCHOOL CLUB, WE COULD GET PERMISSION TO GO IN.
I THINK WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US BEFORE THAT HAPPENS...

DO YOU WANT MORE CLUB MEMBERS, MIYACCHI?

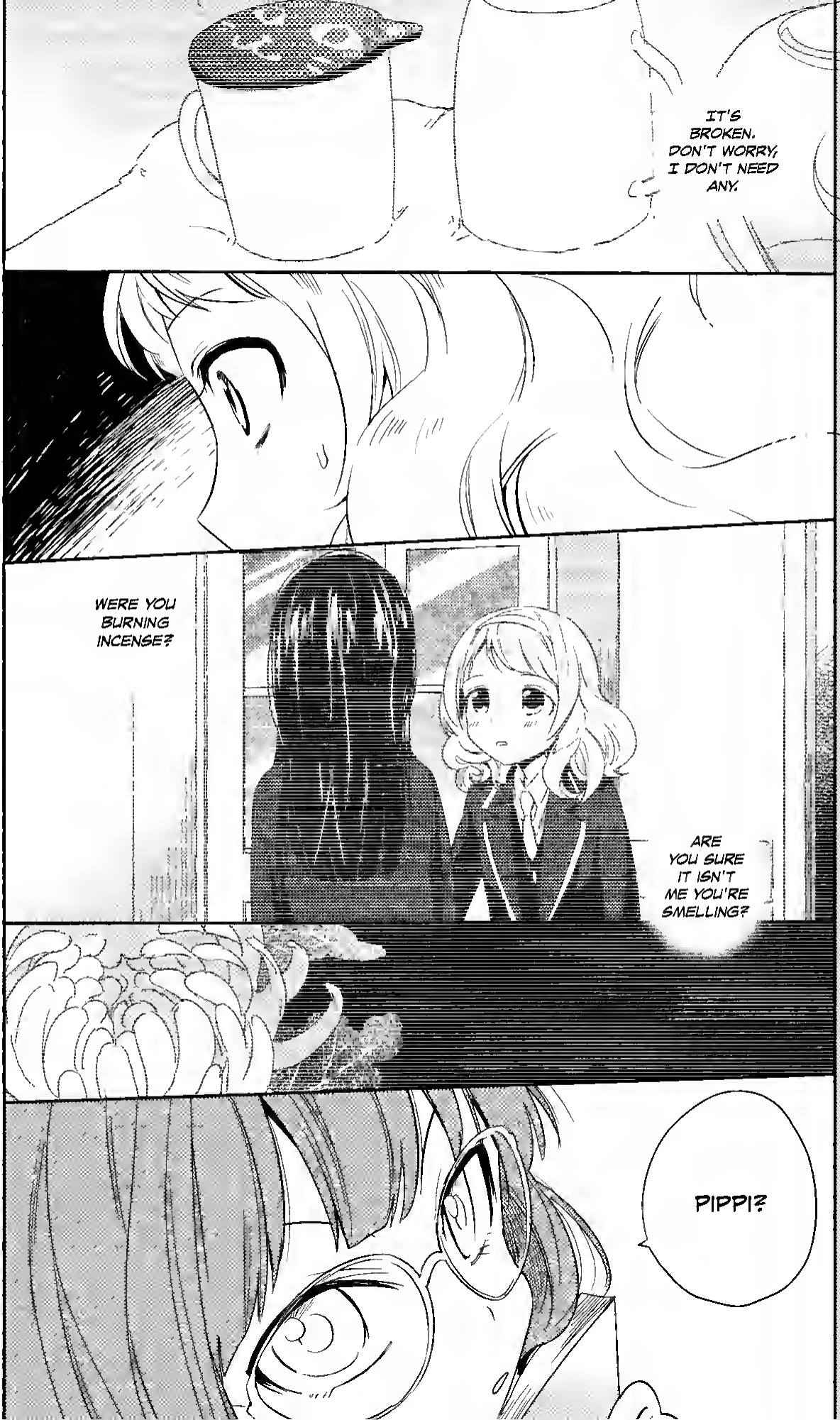

PWAH!


AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE, PIPPI, I DON'T REALLY CARE EITHER WAY!
MM...
NN...
creak


THAT'S RIGHT.
WITH TWO MORE PEOPLE, WE COULD HAVE A PROPER OCCULT RESEARCH CLUB!
BUT I GUESS I'D BETTER PUT A LITTLE EFFORT INTO IT, ANYWAY.

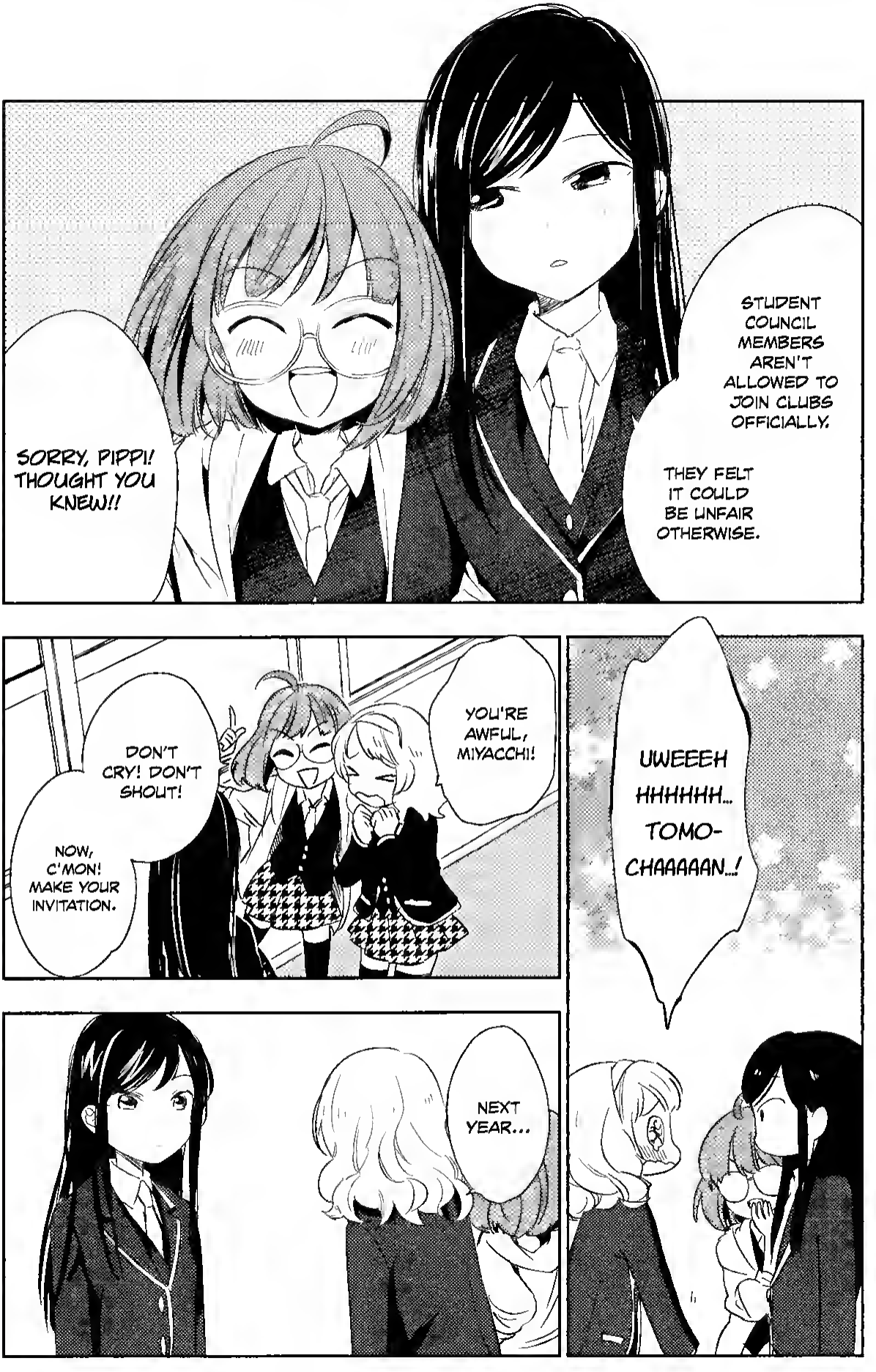
THREE MORE PEOPLE.

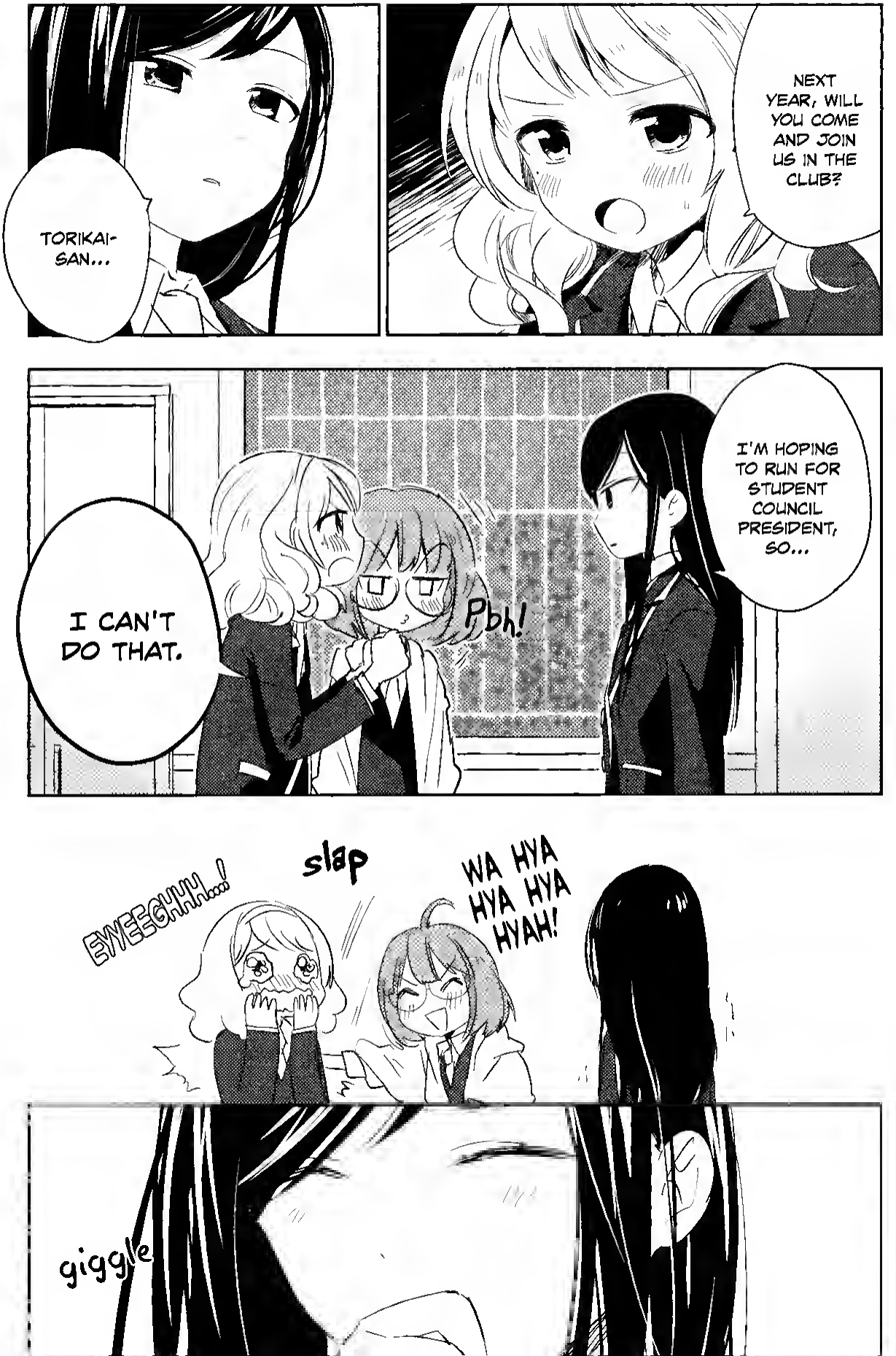
Huh?
YOU NEED FIVE TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL CLUB, RIGHT?
RIGHT.
SO, THREE MORE THAN WE'VE GOT.
BUT... OUR CIRCLE HAS THREE MEMBERS...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IT'S ALWAYS JUST BEEN...
ME AND YOU IN THE CLUB, PIPPI.


IT'S BROKEN. DON'T WORRY, I DON'T NEED ANY.
WERE YOU BURNING INCENSE?
ARE YOU SURE IT ISN'T ME YOU'RE SMELLING?
PIPPI?

ka-chik

Tomo-chan...?


STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS AREN'T ALLOWED TO JOIN CLUBS OFFICIALLY.
THEY FELT IT COULD BE UNFAIR OTHERWISE.
SORRY, PIPPI! THOUGHT YOU KNEW!!
YOU'RE AWFUL, MIYACCHI!
DON'T CRY! DON'T SHOUT!
NOW, C'MON! MAKE YOUR INVITATION.
UWEEEH HHHHHH... TOMO-CHAAAAAN...!
NEXT YEAR...


TORIKAI-SAN...
NEXT YEAR, WILL YOU COME AND JOIN US IN THE CLUB?
I'M HOPING TO RUN FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, SO...
Pbh!
I CAN'T DO THAT.
slap
EYYEEGHH...!
WA HYA HYA HYA HYAH!
giggle

fw-tmp
AGHHH!
SAVE ME, TOMO-CHAN!
giggle
giggle
PIPPI,
LOOK, LOOK, CAN YOU SEE? YOU SEE IT, RIGHT??
I THINK YOU'D BETTER RESIGN YOURSELF.
EHHH?
END

The Azure Bird and Spring Wind

by Yurihara Aki

Raws: WeatheredPeach
Translation: Gulf Standard
Editing: Horn
Quality Control: Procyon

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